

Committee on Educational Policy & Strategy Minutes
University of Florida Board of Trustees
March 15, 2010
3:45 – 5:00 p.m.
Presidents Room 215C, Emerson Alumni Hall
University of Florida

Committee Members Present: Carlos Alfonso, Chair; Marshal Criser; Roland Daniels; Jordan Johnson; Mac McGriff; Jack Mecholsky; Dianna Morgan; Cynthia O’Connell; Danny Ponce; Carolyn Roberts; and Al Warrington

Committee Members Absent: Earl Powell, Steven Scott

Others Present: Joe Glover, Jamie Lewis Keith, and Patricia Telles-Irvin

Chairman Alfonso called the meeting to order at 3:47 p.m. and asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 16, 2009 conference call and the December 10, 2009 meeting. Trustee O’Connell made the motion to approve the minutes, Trustee Mecholsky seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.

EP1 – University of Florida Regulations

Trustee Alfonso asked for discussion on the UF Regulations. After a brief discussion, Trustee McGriff moved to approve the proposed changes to the following UF Regulations:

- UF-1.006 Non-Discrimination Policy
- UF-1.0061 Affirmative Action Plan for Equal Employment Opportunity, and Administrative Organization for the Affirmative Action Program
- UF-1.015 University of Florida Campaign for Charities
- UF-1.019 Limited Access Records
- UF-1.201 Leaves
- UF-2.001 Possession and Use of Firearms
- UF-3.009 Traffic & Parking; Bus System
- UF-3.014 Traffic & Parking; Fine Schedule
- UF-3.0372 Student Health, Athletic, and Activity Service Fees
- UF-3.058 University Complaint Procedure for University Support Personnel System Employees
- UF-4.007 Confidentiality of Students Records and Applicant Records
- UF-4.041 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code: Scope and Violations
- UF-7.003 Academic Personnel Employment Plan: Academic Appointments, Types of Appointments, Appointment Status Modifier, and Academic-Administrative Classification Titles
- UF-7.019 Tenure and Promotion: Definition, Eligibility, Granting of Tenure, Criteria, Procedures and Methods of Processing, Confidential Nature of Materials and Discussions, Reports and Appeals, Permanent Status and Sustained Performance Evaluations
- UF-7.042 University Grievance Procedures for Faculty and Postdoctoral Associates; Definitions, General Information and Procedures

UF-7.049 Textbook Adoptions

Trustee Johnson seconded the motion, and the UF Regulations were unanimously approved.

EP2 – Degree Terminations

Chairman Alfonso asked if there was any discussion on the proposal to terminate the Master of Science in Dairy Science and the Master of Science in Poultry Science. There was no discussion. Trustee Warrington moved to approve the two degree terminations, Trustee McGriff seconded the motion, and the degrees were approved for termination unanimously.

EP3 – Honorary Degree

The committee held a brief discussion about the honorary degree nomination process. Trustee Warrington moved to approve the honorary degree for Howard Lance, Trustee Ponce seconded the motion, and the honorary degree was approved unanimously.

EP4 – University Annual Report

Trustee Morgan moved to approve the University Annual Report, Trustee O’Connell seconded the motion, and the University Annual Report was unanimously approved.

EP5 – Tenure Upon Hire

Dr. Glover informed the committee that after an extensive national search Dr. Jack Payne was selected as the next Senior Vice President for IFAS and that part of his offer was tenure upon hire. Trustee Daniels moved to approve tenure upon appointment for Dr. Payne. Trustee Roberts seconded the motion, and Dr. Payne’s tenure upon hire was approved unanimously by the committee.

President Machen thanked the committee for their approval. He stated that Dr. Payne was the consensus choice of the committee chaired by Dr. Glover and that Dr. Payne is recognized widely in the field. He also stated that Dr. Larry Arrington has done a fabulous job in a tough time.

Discussion Items:

4.1 Unit Adjustments

Dr. Glover reminded the committee of the department name change in PHHP and a new school creation in DCP, both discussed on the February 25, 2010 conference call.

4.2 Admissions Update

Dr. Zina Evans gave the committee a brief update on admissions:

- 27,907 applicants, just a few short of an all-time record,
- For a class of 6,400 – 11,000 students admitted
- Middle 50% have SAT scores of 1880-2100, with a total of 2400 possible
- Students with a 4.0 GPA and an SAT of 2070 are invited into honors program, which included over 2,200 students. 19% of that group was admitted.
- Both National Merit and National Achievement applicants increased and make up 6% of the total students admitted.
- 6,660 Legacies applied, 59% of the group was admitted.

Dr. Evans stated after May 1st UF will know for sure who is actually attending as that is the deadline for admission deposits.

4.3 Faculty Senate Update

Trustee Mecholsky informed the committee of the Senate's directed discussions on selected topics:

- Academic Integrity – A task Force has been named and charged. It will be looking at whether or not there is a problem and if so, how to address the problem in both the short and long term.
- Distance Learning – There are different models in different colleges, different techniques and potentials that look at balancing revenue and academic quality
- Academic Freedom and Tenure – It is clear to faculty to keep tenure, and preserve it at university settings
- Faculty as Facilitators of Student Well Being – Identifying signs of stress in students and faculty and what is being done. The Senate is to continue discussions on this topic.

The committee had a discussion about the faculty's responsibility for reporting concerns.

- RCM – This is still a faculty concern, but the group is sharing information and continuing the discussions.
- Open Source Textbooks – This will continue to be the topic for future discussions within the Senate.
- Academic Assessment – Academic Learning Compacts (ALC) and outcomes continue to be discussed

4.4 Student Government Update

Trustee Johnson gave the committee an update on the Reitz Union renovation project. He stated the steering committee is looking at alternative funding methods, not solely relying on a student fee. He then thanked the Board, Dr. Machen, Mr. Kratzer, Mr. Beach, and Dr. Telles-Irvin for their assistance and for providing the best services for students.

Trustee Johnson stated that Ashton Charles would be the new Student Government President.

Chairman Alfonso thanked both Trustee Johnson and Trustee Mecholsky for their service on the board.

4.5 Lake Nona Center

Vice President Phillips gave the committee an update on the Lake Nona building and the proposal to take it to the Board of Governors to be declared an educational site for UF. The committee discussed funding from the state and proposed funding necessary for the building as well as whether the building is included on the PECO list.

Trustee Alfonso stated that everyone should visit Lake Nona and see its development into a

medical city. He continued by stating that it is a substantial statement to have UF as a charter partner.

Trustee McGriff clarified that Lake Nona does not take any funding away from Gainesville. Dr. Machen confirmed that.

4.6 Honor Code Changes to the Student Government Constitution

Vice President Telles-Irvin briefly explained that the constitution was approved and the honor code changes were included. Trustee Ponce asked what the vote was and Dr. Telles-Irvin replied that the constitution received a 70% approval vote.

4.7 Undergraduate Education

4.7.1 Undergraduate Curriculum Task Force

Associate Provost Bernard Mair updated the committee on the final report from the Undergraduate Curriculum Task Force. He discussed campus wide initiatives such as the research experience for undergraduates being coordinated centrally through the Undergraduate Research Office, Writing in the Disciplines, Speaker Series, Global Competence/International Experience, General Education Humanities Course, Faculty Teaching Skills, and Academic Program Quality.

Vice President Telles-Irvin discussed a few areas involved from Student Affairs such as Living-learning Residence Hall, Enhancing the First Year Experience, and Student Employment.

4.7.2 Humanities General Education Course

Distinguished Professor Vasudha Narayanan presented to the committee information on the pilot version of the course IDH 3931: What is the Good Life? With its goals of having freshmen integrated into the cultural plaza experience, reading a lot, writing, thinking, questioning, and appreciating the material.

Dr. Machen reminded the committee that this is the first real tangible outcome of the discussion at UF of the undergraduate experience.

Dr. Glover stated due to the leadership of the course, it is not only cross-humanities, but cross-campus work, and is off to a great start with the intention of seeing it grow.

4.7.3 Biomedical Engineering Undergraduate Major

Interim Chair, Dr. Bruce Wheeler gave the committee an update on the undergraduate curriculum in biomedical engineering. He stated the department plans to grow the faculty from 10 to 18, graduate students from 80 to 140, and staged growth of the undergraduate students to 280 students.

4.7.4 Creative B

Dr. Glover informed the committee of a Summer B project called "Creative B" which includes cultural events, courses with a creative focus, and interdisciplinary summer activities.

4.8 Distance Learning

Associate Provost Andy McCollough gave the committee a presentation on Distance Learning. The presentation included discussion about online education demand analysis, testing integrity, and assessment auditing.

In closing, Dr. Telles-Irvin informed the committee of the university's new Dean of Students, Dr. Jen Day Shaw.

There was no new business and the committee adjourned at 5:50 p.m.